(c) if so, whether any guidelines for eliminating gender-gaps were formulated and synergetic implementation modalities evolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, In India, the anniversary was marked by the release of 'The State of World's Children Report', special edition in a function organized in Delhi by UNICEF on 20th November, 2009. The function was attended by the representatives of the Government. The focus of the event was on overall progress of children in India and the remaining challenges. Specific details of protecting girls' rights and the guidelines for eliminating gender gaps were not discussed.

Rice and wheat at BPL rates for Anganwadi centres

†3536. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI SHIVPRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received from Chhattisgarh for providing rice and wheat to Anganwadi Centres at BPL rates for 2009-10;

(b) the demand made and quantity released in this regard; and

(c) by when the remaining quantity would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP) linked to Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, the State of Chhattisgarh has been allocated total of 22,500 MTs of Wheat and 34,852 MTs of Rice in three quarter vis-a-vis the initial requirement of 45,000 MTs of Wheat and 40,000 MTs of Rice received from the State Government for the year 2009-10.

Under Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) the State has been allocated 2253.87 MTs of Rice in 2 quarters vis-a-vis the requirements of 3944.26 MTs of Rice conveyed by the State Government. Requirement of 42000 MTs of Rice for the 4th quarter of the current financial year has been received from the State Government.

Under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP), the remaining quantities would be released during 4th quarter of the current financial year subject to availability of foodgrains in sufficient quantity as per overall demand.

Under NPAG, the remaining quantity would be released subject to the submission of Utilisation Certificate by the State Government.

Anganwadis in Orissa

3537. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the number of anganwadis functioning in Orissa, taluka-wise;

(b) the number of Anganwadis workers employed in these Anganwadis, taluka-wise and post-wise;

(c) the remuneration paid to them by the Central Government and contribution made by the State Government; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to improve the working conditions in Anganwadis and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) There are 46589 Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) working in 50393 functional Anganwadis in Orissa. Taluka-wise details are available at Ministry's website:

hup.//www.wcd.nic.in/icdsimg/taluka wwawcor09.pdf.

(c) Presently, the honorarium being paid to Anganwadi Workers ranges from Rs.1438/- to Rs.1563/- per month, depending upon their qualifications and experience, whereas Anganwadi Workers engaged in Mini-Anganwadis are paid an honorarium of Rs.750/- per month. The Above are shared between the Government of India and State Government of Orissa in the ratio of 90:10 w.e.f. 1.4.2009. In addition, Government of Orissa is paying additional honoraria of Rs.500/- p.m. per AWW of Angawadi & Rs.250 p.m. per AWW of mini-Anganwadi.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

Malnourished children

3538. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, in terms of certain indicators such as underweight and stunted growth of children in the country, the situation is worse than sub Saharan countries such as Ethiopia, Angola, Sudan and Congo;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government has taken in the recent years to address the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) As per National Family Health Survey 3 (2005-06) the percentage of underweight and stunted children below 5 years of age in India is 42.5% and 48% respectively.

As far as comparison with other countries is concerned there are no authentic and comparable sources of data. One of the Reports captioned Tracking Progress on Child and Maternal Malnutrition' by UNICEF has given country-wise data. However, such data is for the reference years 2003-2008, which is not uniform and in case of some countries, the data is limited and has variations as indicated in the footnotes. Hence comparison cannot be made on a rational basis.